

Scott and Shellie Filkins
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January 22, 2001

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: "No Downers" – Docket Number 98P-0151/CPI

Dear Sir or Madam:

Please accept this letter as my request for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to grant petition 98P-0151/CPI to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. I support the USDA policy to stop purchasing meat from downed cows for Federal programs, including the National School Lunch Program.

I am gravely concerned about the health implications of allowing sick or injured animals to enter the human food chain. Not only do these animals have an increased risk for bacterial contamination; there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE or Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, aka, Mad Cow Disease.

Additionally, I believe downed animals can be prevented by better handling and care. If there is no market for downed animals, perhaps there won't be downed animals in the first place.

Please grant this petition.

Sincerely,

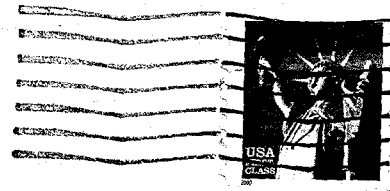

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98P-0151

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